

EVENING STAR

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C. L. BITTINGER,
Editor and General Manager.

R. R. CARROLL,
City Editor and Business Manager.

March 20 in History.

1637—Lasalle, explorer, murdered in Texas by his discontented followers.

1811—Birth of Napoleon II., only child of Napoleon Bonaparte; died 1832.

1906—Mrs. A. D. T. Whitney, American authoress, died at Milton, Mass.; born 1824.

ASTRONOMICAL EVENTS:

Tonight and Tomorrow Morning.
Sun sets 6:08, rises 5:58; moon rises 8:40 p. m.; 7 p. m., vernal equinox—spring commences; 12 midnight, conjunction between the planet Saturn and the sun; Saturn changes from east to west of the sun, thus becoming morning star; planet Mercury visible.

TO RAISE FUNDS

The city of Ocala is in need of cash. There is a method by which a big sum of money can be raised. It is as follows: There are a large number of tax certificates in the possession of the city. Some of these certificates are for taxes of 1906-'07, which, under the special act of the legislature, can be foreclosed upon just like any other mortgage or lien, and the purchaser can get a valid title to the property. As a means of investment these certificates are to be desired. This matter will be taken up and the properties advertised and sold according to law. Back of 1906 there are hundreds of certificates running back for a score of years and representing many thousands of dollars. These certificates are a cloud on the property and are subject to tax deeds. One buying the certificates can either get a tax deed on the land and if he can secure possession will have a pretty good title to the property, or he can buy and hold them as an investment and the owner of the property will have to reimburse him with interest for each year thereafter. From the city's standpoint it might be a good plan to gather up these certificates, let the parties owning the land know of their existence, call the matter forcibly to their attention and make them a proposition to take up the certificates at their face value, or at the most, for a small rate of interest, dispose of the matter, close it up and get the money. As far as that is concerned, it would be more profitable for the city to take off all interest, or even make a 10% discount on the face of the certificates in the cases of very old ones than to allow them to remain and have the money tied up for another decade. It is not our purpose to work out here a detailed plan for the city to pursue. This is the idea, there is a lot of money tied up, enough to pay every dollar the city will have to pay for paving and it should be collected, and as in the case of an individual, if you can't get a whole loaf, do the best you can. Let the city get busy and collect in this money on the best basis possible and using the most practicable methods.

Four new subscribers and orders for 200 copies of the paper containing the dedicatory exercises of the new library at Belleview, without even saying Star once isn't a bad showing for three hours presence.

Mr. J. B. Cutler has purchased the interest of his partner, C. R. Layton, in the Plant of the Crystal River Ice Company at Crystal River and has moved with his family to that place. Mr. Cutler will personally conduct the plant, and this is assurance to all of his friends that their orders will get the best of attention.—Citrus County Chronicle.

Rev. F. C. Edwards, now of Bartow, was here last week on a visit to relatives, and will probably preach in the Baptist church here once a month hereafter.—Citrus County Chronicle.

Editor Goodwin took a turn at fishing on Orange Lake, from which place he returned this morning and proceeded home this afternoon. He said he was building a fine 24-foot boat for the lake, which he will launch in a day or two.



A GREAT DAY FOR BELLEVIEW

After Twenty-One Years of Work, the Town Library is an Accomplished Fact

A few months over twenty-one years ago, or, to be exact, on November 19 1886, there met in the school house a little band of workers who styled themselves the Belleview Library Association, and pledged their united efforts to the building and furnishing of a public library. There were present at that meeting Mrs. M. L. Smith, Mrs. T. W. Brooks, Mrs. C. W. Newman and Mrs. Gary G. Bush, and the following gentlemen, Prof. Bush, T. H. Rouse, H. Woodman, Arthur Brown, R. C. Ridge and several others.

On Friday evening, December 27, 1886 the results of the first meeting crystallized into a permanent organization, with Prof. Gary B. Bush as president; James C. Wade, secretary; W. E. Strong, treasurer, with a board of directors consisting of six active town workers, and the enthusiasm ran high. Pictures of a fine building and a noble collection of books were vividly imagined. In December of the same year a fine building site was secured, and the work earnestly commenced to make the library a real success.

One of the first donations of any consequence was a present of fifty dollars made by the old reliable stand by and faithful band of pushers—the Belleview Workers—made on May 2, 1887. This, with the proceeds of lectures, oyster suppers, dramas and various kinds of entertainments, soon made a fund to be proud of.

From that on the society flourished apace, and prospered until the winter of '87 and '88. The dread yellow fever scourge of the summer and fall of 1888 (not in Belleview, but in other parts of the state) put a temporary stop to the progress of the organization, and not until the winter of 1889 did things resume their normal state for the affairs of the library association. That winter saw a revival of the interest in the matter, with a membership of over sixty.

The years of 1890-'91-'92, and up to 1895 passed, showing a healthy growth and unabated in the affairs of the association. Various plans had been presented, thought over and rejected, looking to the acquisition of a suitable building, either by purchase or building of the same, but all were rejected for various reasons. At the time it was seriously thought of to buy in the Belleview block.

One of the serious set-backs met with by the association was the loss of all its funds, on deposit with the First National Bank of Ocala. However, that little incident cut no ice with the brave band of workers, and they pressed steadily onward to the goal.

Along in 1889 the association was the owner of between five and six hundred books, selected mainly by the late Prof. Gary G. Bush. Up to and through 1897 Prof. Bush had served as president of the association continuously for eleven years.

On January 12, 1898, Mrs. I. S. Keeler was elected president; Alfred Abshire, vice president; O. M. Gale, secretary and treasurer, with a board of directors to look after details.

Affairs progressed merrily along for a year or so, when on February 11, 1901, Mr. William C. Doolittle was elected to the office of president, and with the banner membership of the life of the association, made good progress toward the aim and ambition of the founders.

On January 6, 1902, Mrs. G. G. Bush was elected president and has served in that capacity ever since; Mrs. O. M. Gale, vice president; O. M. Gale, secretary and treasurer, with the usual board of directors, and the aims and objects of the original promoters were kept in sight, and with suppers, plays, membership fees and other contributions the swelling process kept merrily on, until the building fund attained some proportions.

January 8, 1904, the town was visited with a terrible fire, in which the Belleview block was totally destroyed, entailing a loss of all of the books owned by the library association, some 800 volumes.

Nothing daunted, the members pressed merrily on, and with renewed energy, prosecuted the work laid out by their predecessors, and the work of swelling the funds through the medium of suppers, entertainments, etc., rolled along.

And so up to a few months ago it was decided that the funds on hand would warrant the beginning of a building, worthy of the name and a credit to Belleview. So the material was contracted for, and Mr. Cowles, an expert mason, from Bridgeport Conn., was engaged to build the same; and

now, after twenty-one years of arduous labor, after trials innumerable, after troubles and set-backs enough to discourage the most sanguine, the work is finished.

To the indefatigable efforts of a few is the town of Belleview indebted for this fine building. And then it must be remembered that of the present officers a majority are charter members of the association, having served over twenty-one years for love of the object aimed at. On Thursday, January 18, 1908, the laying of the corner stone proved the culmination of twenty-one years of unremitting labor.

All hail to the officers who have brought this matter to a successful issue and let the names of them all be remembered long for their services. At the present time the officers are as follows:

President—Mrs. G. G. Bush.
Vice President—Mrs. Wm. C. Doolittle.

Secretary and Treasurer—L. LeGrange Hopkins.

Directors—R. C. Ridge, Wm. C. Doolittle, Mrs. L. R. Halstead, Mrs. F. F. Wendell, Miss Sara Eosworth and L. LeGrange Hopkins.

Promptly at 3 o'clock Thursday afternoon the beloved president of the Belleview Library Association called the meeting to order, the beautiful building being filled with friends of the library and the following program was carried out, which proved of intense interest to all:

Remarks by the president, sketched the conception of the project and the unslacking efforts to consummate the work. The anticipations of this day and its joyful realizations made the heart beat quicker and in the triumph that was theirs instinctively shout, "go ring the bell and fire the gun," in exaltation of the work accomplished and an occasion of general congratulation. She then read a notice of Nov. 18, 1886, which at that time was posted on the front door of Babb's store of that day, calling a meeting to form a band of willing workers and for the creation of a library association. She heartily expressed the appreciation of the work done by her associates and workers. Mrs. Bush spoke beautifully and happily and was warmly applauded.

Rev. Sudfield, the popular pastor of the M. E. church of the village, then invoked the divine blessing with fervent words followed by a duet, the words composed by Mrs. Terrell and sang with fine effect by her and Mrs. Gates, who accompanied her on the organ.

Song Written and Sang by Mrs. Terrell

Today we've gathered here
From lands both far and near
To dedicate

This building, built of sand
And stones, from many lands
We've named it as it stands
The Library.

With all the work complete
Together here we'll greet
All those that come.

Let every one be gay
Within these walls today
And let us ever say
To all, welcome.

And now our friends so dear
We meet year after year
To you we sing
Long life the Worker's band
And all the helping hands
That placed it where it stands
In Belleview.

Judge L. LeGrange Hopkins, one of the indefatigable and inspired workers in the cause of the library association its panstaking, efficient secretary and treasurer, then detailed most interestingly the efforts to raise funds to erect the building. He said it was a free will offering from the widow's mite to a \$50 check from a prosperous bond clipper, and he read the names of the donors, which should be enshrined on a tablet and placed over the secretary's desk for all time, so those who sought the inviting interior could read who were the real promoters and benefactors of the village. The judge plainly demonstrated the library building was a "labor of love."

Then came solo and chorus, "Summer Time in Dixie Land," beautifully sang by Mrs. Gates, organist, Mrs. Barrs, Miss Bessie Shedd, Miss Lorena Freeman and Mr. Amos Knott, followed by the chairman of the building committee, Col. W. C. Doolittle, who has certainly been a wheel horse in this laudable move and the inspiration that has been on him in the effort was worth its weight in gold. The colonel has been identified with the growth of the beautiful City of Oaks for over twenty years and none of its improvements have appealed stronger to him than the creation of a library to inculcate a taste in the minds and the hearts of the young for good reading. He referred to the work and those associated with him in a feeling manner and said the hearts of all in the work were full to overflowing with happiness at the auspicious and joyous occasion and thanked God for its consummation.

Mrs. Gates then sang most pleasantly, "Thinking," followed by Mrs. F. F. Wendell's Paper

I am reminded this afternoon of an old gentleman I used to know, who when we met to arrange for an entertainment in our church, would often meet with the younger folks and would always say "now you must all try and come, and do your best, for its going to be a grand and glorious occasion."

I think this an auspicious day, if you please, Madam President, a glorious occasion, toward which members of the library association, the Belleview Workers and the citizens of our town have looked forward for many years. And what more fitting day than this with balmy air, songs of birds

Just a Word to the WISE!

OUR

New Spring Line

of the

Season's Latest Offerings

in

DRESS GOODS

are arriving daily

The Boston Store
M. HANDELSMAN

and God's glorious sunshine over all, to dedicate this beautiful building.

I do not think our fairest dreams, during all the years we have longed for a library building, have ever been equal to the reality we see before us today. Much praise is due the architect and builder, Mr. Cowles, and the building committee, who have had this work in hand.

Some twenty years ago the denomination of which I am a member built a fine church in my home town in New York state, upon which was placed a symmetrical, beautiful spire, unlike any other in the town. While setting on my porch one afternoon I heard two ladies conversing about the church as they came up the street. At a certain point just below my home they obtained a fine view of the spire, and one lady said to the other, "Now the Methodists think they have gone and done it, don't they? See that steeple over there way up in the air?"

Of course this caused a smile and a feeling of pity too, that envy should move the heart of a member of a sister church to make such a remark.

Now the little incident only illustrates adversely, for none of us are moved by envy, no we exclaim "see what they have done," but with pride, we point to this fine building with its architectural beauty and completeness, and say, "behold what we have done, library association, Belleview Workers and citizens of our little village."

Though the years have been long since we first thought to build, and losses have come to the association, first of money, then of our fine library of over 800 volumes, still our indomitable will has pressed on undaunted, and at last conquered. We see today the realization of our brightest hopes.

While naming the day for the dedication, the 24th was mentioned, but

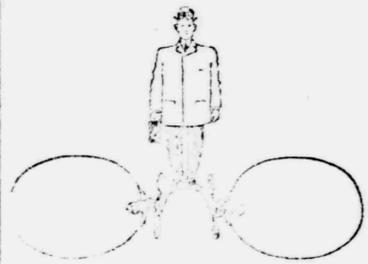
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Millions have done so before you. SENSIBLE people submit to the dictates of nature, and when there is indication of eye trouble, go to a COMPETENT optician and have the proper correction made to their vision.

I GIVE TESTS THAT CANNOT FAIL



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Gary Block

one of the directors was very desirous it should be earlier, because of the going away of some of our members to their various homes. So the 19th was named, and it immediately came to the minds of some present that the 19th was a most suitable day, as it was the birthday of the first president, and one of the founders of the association, who for eleven successive years was president and deeply interested in the welfare of the association. I refer to the late Professor George Gary Bush.

We never can cease to regret that so pure and helpful a life was taken thus early to the larger, more beautiful life beyond, but I am very glad to state today that his fine library, he so much enjoyed and loved, and during all the years from boyhood to the last of life, he was enlarging and improving, has been presented by Mrs. Bush to the library association.

I can but hope that as these books are being read by the boys and girls, the men and women of our town, that something of Prof. Bush's love for books and desire for a higher education may come into their hearts, and thus the influence of his cultured, refined, pure spirit may live on in the years to come.

Mrs. Wendell read her paper beautifully and impressively and it was greatly enjoyed, as was the lovely duet, sang with such fine and pleasing effect, entitled, "Only Remembered," by Messdames Wendell and Sirdefield, which brought forth hearty applause.

(Concluded Tomorrow.)

FOR TAX ASSESSOR

I find that the citizens of Ocala decide for themselves what candidate they will support, and electing one of them has little or no effect. From the handsome vote that Ocala has given me, my assessments must be fair and just. I fully appreciate this support and indorsement and hope that you will favor me with it again in the May election.
Alfred Ayer.

You can get a pound of first-class linen writing paper and two packages of envelopes to match for 50 cents at the Ocala News Co.

ELECTRICAL WORK

If you are contemplating having electrical work done of any kind, electric lights put in, call bells, or any wiring in the electrical line, be sure to get my estimate before placing the order. No job is too large for me to do, and none too small to receive my best and careful attention. I carry a full line of electrical supplies in stock.
Respectfully,
Walter Tucker.

BUSINESS IS BUSINESS

Walls are never too cracked and broken for me to finish in an A No 1 style with Alabastine. All colors and tints.
J. A. Morris, Jr.
"Decorating," that's my business.

A severe cold that may develop into pneumonia over night, can be cured quickly by taking Foley's Honey and Tar. It will cure the most obstinate racking cough and strengthen your lungs. The genuine is in a yellow package. Sold by all dealers.

LOST—A gold locket, about the size of a quarter, with W. A. on one side and 1907 on the other. Return to Anderson's drugstore and receive reward.

Mr. M. Fishel is in New York, buying spring goods.

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is the pride of hospitality. The host provides for his guests the best he can procure. For liquid refreshments the genial host consults us, for here are to be found whiskies, gins, brandies and wines of the right sort at the right prices.

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